

April 5, 2013

# Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon presented Dr. Robert McKinney, IDOC School Psychologist, with a Distinguished Hoosier Award from Indiana Governor Mike Pence. Dr. McKinney recently retired with over 44 years of service to the State of Indiana.

Three staff members from Westville Correctional Facility's Internal Affairs Division were, once again, invited to speak at Valparaiso University. IA Supervisor Charles Whelan, along with investigators Tom Stinson and Marshall Hayes presented information on Security Threat Groups in prisons to students in the school's penology class. This is the second year that the team has represented the DOC to students studying the effects on gangs in our society.

The Gary Parole District joined various local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Operation Lost Innocence, a coordinated effort in La Porte County to conduct a joint compliance sweeps. Assistant District Supervisor Erik Kruper and Agent Dan Ward, along with investigators from the La Porte County Sheriff's Office, Indiana State Police, Michigan City Police, and United States Marshals Service verified residency and employment of 87 sex offenders who reside and work in La Porte County. The compliance sweep was held in conjunction with the National Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is recognized in the month of April. The sex offenders who were targeted were those that have been identified by Indiana Code as Sexually Violent Predators or Offenders Against Children. Of the 87 targeted offenders, 93% were found to be compliant, and only six offenders were non-compliant.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held an Open House in the education department. During Open House, parents met with education, treatment and administrative staff members. Parents were also made aware of the newly installed Promethean's Interactive Whiteboard Systems that were made possible by a grant obtained by IDOC Central Office. (see photo left)

Current and past Superintendents Stanley Knight, Richard Clark, Brian Smith, Dushaun Zatecky and Al Parke bid farewell to Administrative Secretary Marilyn Detro and Captain PCF staff extended their best wishes to the two who represent 67 years of correctional experience.

Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) offenders from the Rockville Correctional Facility made crocheted blankets for the canines in the facility's Animals Depending On Prison Time (ADOPT) program as a community service project. They made 13 blankets so that the dogs will have a soft blanket to lay on in the housing unit. (see photo right)

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) said goodbye to Jim Hoover who worked as Internal Affairs Director at MCF since the facility opened in 1999. Hoover has a total of 46 years of experience with the state. He worked as an Indiana State Policeman prior to his employment at MCF. Hoover was honored with a plaque and a reception.

A retirement ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor Steam Plant Operator Richard Rumble in recognition of twenty years of state service.

All of the employees at the facility want to congratulate Mr. Rumble and wish him the best as he begins his retirement.

Tim Greathouse, Superintendent of Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility, is pleased to announce the promotion of William Phelps to Correctional Lieutenant. Lieutenant Phelps began his career in 2003 at South Bend Juvenile as a Correctional Officer, and in 2006 he was promoted to Correctional Sergeant. Lieutenant Phelps is a graduate of the D.O.C. Supervisory Program, Leadership Academy, and the Experience and Emerging Leadership Program.

The Indiana Women's Prison celebrated an Easter Service with 194 offenders. The celebration included an offender choir led by volunteer Pastor Bennie Polin, a Biblical Storytelling presentation by the storytelling class, an offender Liturgical Dance ensemble with a theme of redemption, poetry presented by offenders and volunteer, and a sermon focused on moving from darkness to light. The service was enjoyed by all participants.

Boy Scout Troop 240 was the latest recipient of a charitable contribution made by the Correctional Industrial Facility. A donation of \$1000, which was raised through the facility's Aramark Community Fund, was given to the troop. Boy Scout Troop 240 has 39 members and celebrates their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Troop 240 provided over 850 hours of community service in 2012 and promoted three scouts to the rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 240 is always looking for more donations for underprivileged Boy Scouts. (see photo left)

The Wabash Valley March of Dimes campaign has received a \$500 boost from Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! The Fatherhood and PLUS programs teamed to present Wabash Valley Division Director Nikki Simpson with the check during the Wabash Re-Call Meeting. Superintendent Richard Brown encouraged staff to take part in the April 27th March for Babies Walk in Terre Haute.

